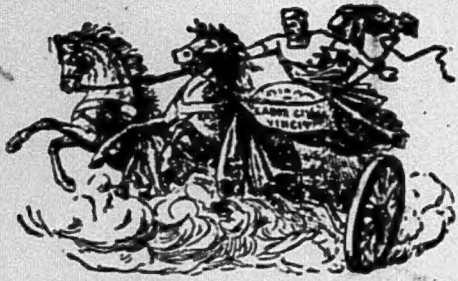


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# The



# People.

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VOL IX.—NO. 7.

NEW YORK, MAY 14, 1899.

PRICE 2 CENTS.

## WRESTLING

### With the Police and Police Magistrates in Philadelphia.

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., May 9.—Contrary to the notions of Mayor H. P. Ford, of Pittsburg, who says: "The Socialists meet at the houses of different members in groups of 10 or 12," we of Kensington are now holding regular Saturday night open air meetings. It was at the meeting of Saturday, May 6, Front and Dauphin streets, that an attempt was made to execute the admonition of that Pittsburg capitalist dunkey, expressed as follows during the strike of the Schoen mills' employees when the Socialists led the strikers to a glorious victory:

"The time has come to put a stop to this, for it is going to be one of the greatest dangers of this country if not checked. I BELIEVE THAT FIRM AND DRASTIC METHODS SHOULD BE USED, AND THAT WHENEVER A SOCIALIST MEETING IS HELD THE LEADERS OF THE MOVEMENT SHOULD BE PROMPTLY ARRESTED." (115)

The meeting was opened a few minutes past 8 o'clock, the Salvation Army having occupied the corner up to that time Comrade Samuel Clark, as the first speaker, he had spoken about half an hour when he was interrupted by a policeman. The following dialogue took place:

"You'll hafta stop that!"  
"Why, what's the matter?"  
"You'll hafta git away from here, see?"

"This is a peaceable meeting; how is it that we were never interrupted before?"

"You're told to stop, wasn't you?"  
"Yes; but by what authority?"  
"Well, that's my orders, go see the boss."

"You were ordered to stop us?"  
"Yes."

A hasty consultation was held by the comrades present and Comrades Clark and Dress went to see the Lieutenant of the District. During this interval the sale of literature was also stopped.

The Lieutenant informed us that no such orders had been given, but that the officer had a perfect right to stop us if the thoroughfare was being obstructed. We assured him that we took care to see that there was plenty of passage room for both pedestrians and vehicles. He further informed us that if he had his way, all of these meetings would be stopped. "They're a d—d nuisance, anyhow," said he, "it's all right 'round election time, but I see no sense in them at this time."

It was pointed out to him that that sort of language contemplated an interference with the rights of free speech and assemblage guaranteed by the laws of the land; and we informed him in terms not to be mistaken that we were peaceable and law-abiding citizens, who dared to avail ourselves of all peaceable means, but if necessary would fight unto death for the maintenance of our rights.

The Lieutenant further volunteered the information that it would do no good and asked: "How long do you propose to keep this up?"

"Until the workingmen become Socialists, until the workingmen have an intelligent conception of their rights and duties as citizens."

"Ha, ha, that's so d—d far off that you'll never see it; I've belonged to labor unions; I know what the workingmen are; why, d—n them, if I had my way they'd have no rights 'tall; why, they'll go back on you every time."

His job attests to the fact that he was betrayed. Just another one of that species known as fakir. Further comment unnecessary.

Comrades Clark and Dress returned to the place of meeting, a larger crowd awaiting them. As they walked toward the stand the "copper" said:

"Well, what'd he say?"  
"He said: go ahead!"

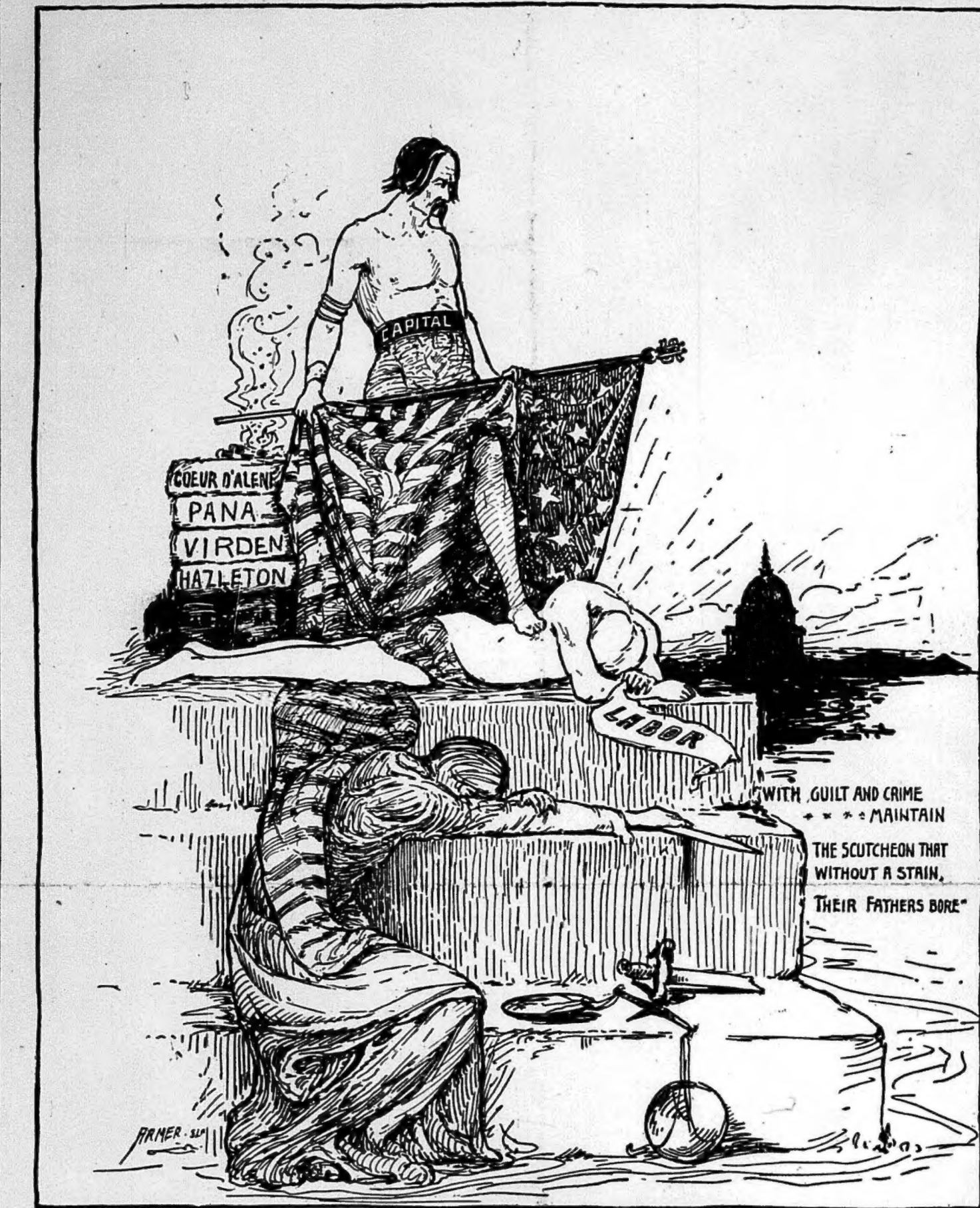
Comrade Dress retook the platform and loud and long applause. The crowd had now more than doubled. It was with difficulty that the sidewalks could be kept open; everyone was now eager to buy a copy of the "May Day People"; one hundred copies, which in all we had, were sold. Many were disappointed at being unable to procure one.

While the speaker was paying the guardian of capitalist sacredness, the audience manifested their indignation at, and their supreme contempt for the "copper" by cheering the speaker to the echo. Mr. "Copper" walked away like a whipped cur. A comrade heard him say: "I'd like to have hold of that fellow just for a minute."—Yea, verily!

While Comrade Clark was speaking, clenched fists were brandished in the air. "Give 'em h—l!" "That's the stuff!" "The Socialists are good enough for me!"—these are some of the expressions heard ever and anon. This state of things was kept up for about fifteen minutes. It was now time to inject some good sound Socialist philosophy into the heads of the listeners, which Comrade Clark, after being introduced the second time, did in fine style, inspired by the occasion. There was a lustre in his eyes, a ring in his voice and elegance in his bearing which, I dare say, left a lasting impression on the auditors.

### AT IT IN HOLYOKE.

HOLYOKE, Mass., May 9.—Face to face, in hostile conflict of the class struggle stood for the first time the representative of our class with the representative of the capitalist class in



### HAMMER RAPS.

SAN ANTONIO, TEX.—On May 2 we increased our vote seven per cent., and this in less than three months.

Municipal election was held on Feb. 13. That of May 2 was to elect a School Board. We had a full ticket, and received 10 per cent. of total vote. We entered the field in November, 1898. We will nominate a candidate for City Collector on Sunday. Election to be held within 30 days, making four elections within six months.

B. T. HARRIS, Organizer.

BALTIMORE, MD.—Our vote in the city election, May 2, was very light, although we beat the Social Democracy.

Meyer, for Mayor, got 359.  
Simon, for Comptroller, 361.  
Whitkey, for President 2d Branch, 377.

R. T. M.

PHOENIX, ARIZ.—Our initial battle was fought yesterday, May 3, and our initial vote cast was as follows:

Leach, for Mayor.....	71
Gehon, for Assessor and Tax Collector.....	42
Graham, for Recorder.....	43
Dawson, for Marshal.....	33
Cogdell, for Treasurer.....	42

Average vote, 463.

We polled about 5 per cent. of the total vote cast, and we are an official Party now. The Arm and Hammer of the S. L. P. will remain on the official ballot. We circulated 2,000 of our platform in English, 1,000 in Spanish, 1,000 notices of mass meeting with the Socialist Song of Freedom on it, and 1,000 of Comrade Leach's answer to the "Daily Gazette" for garbling our platform. The sentiment created by our agitation proves that the wage workers are gravitating towards the S. L. P. and that are long the S. L. P. will elect its candidates.

### S. T. & L. A.'S EFFECTIVENESS.

SLATTERVILLE, R. I., May 5.—On the 4th of April, a strike of weavers, against the inhuman conditions forced upon them by "prosperity" and a "raise in wages," took place.

On that day, 150 weavers left their looms. We had an interview with the agent; he offered us an increase of 6 per cent. on all goods but suitings, on those he made a 10 per cent. increase.

We reported to a mass meeting of the strikers, who, after hearing our report, decided to demand an increase of 15 per cent. all along the line. The demand was rejected by the agent.

The next day, we had Comrade Reid, of Providence, here, who organized a Local Alliance of the S. T. & L. A. with 118 members. We kept at Socialism all the time. Result: it is the talk of the town. After organizing, we settled down to a good hard fight. We had no money; we had nothing but store bills. We went on strike a struggling mob; we went back as an organized body of sensible men. For three weeks we did not go near the office.

A report appeared, in one of the local papers, that if the mill bell would ring on Monday morning, there would be a break in our ranks. So we held a meeting on Saturday behind closed doors. McDermott spoke, after which a secret ballot was taken on the question of going back. The vote stood 84 to stay out, 8 to return.

A notice appeared on the gates of the mill, on the same day, stating that the mill would start up, and that those who did not go to work would have to leave the tenements in which they lived; said tenements are the property of the mill owners.

On Sunday, a committee, one of whom was the wife of a local Democratic heeler, were going around trying to prevail on the boys to go to work. Result: on Monday NOT ONE WEAVER RETURNED.

The heeler, whose wife worked so

hard on the feelings of the men, has been finding fault because we had "politics in the union." It is expected he will run for Councilman in June, and to prepare himself as a good candidate for the bosses, he is trying to organize the loom fixers. I heard of his attempt and had a talk with one of the fixers this morning. I laid the matter of capitalist versus working class organizations before him and told him we had better go together, otherwise we would "get together" and wipe up several kinds of dirt with them. I also told him to tell the fakir what I had said. Thereupon, Mr. Fakir and would-be Councilman on the Democratic ticket came after me like a mad bull and asked me if I had said what has been reported. I replied, yes!

We had some hot words and I told him to get out of my alley. This keiser used to be quite a man here; is at the head of some secret societies and has a reputation as a boxer. I thought he would hit me. It is a good thing he did not.

We at last went back with a raise in wages; we will be paid by the yard, instead of by the cut; we are recognized as a union.

This battle was fought out on class-conscious lines, and the result will be a good union. Headquarters were opened Monday night with a speaker to address us on the significance of Labor's holiday, May 1.

We will organize a Section here next week. The people are ripe for Socialism, and with the aid of the comrades from Providence, this place will send a shiver down the spine of capitalism. There will be a hot time in June during the election; money will be used freely; right out openly.

During the strike the stores did business on a cash basis only.

The mill here shuts down every summer, as the class lines are now drawn tight and the stores will not trust, we will all go on the town this summer; then, oh my! what a howl there will be from the storekeepers who will find the "taxes they have to pay" go up.

I guess we can hand out a few hot ones ourselves, when it comes to standing with the mill owners against us.

WM. F. TAYLOR.

## THE VAN

### System of Agitation Adopted in California.

LOS ANGELES, Cal., May 2.—Last evening, 1,500 people packed the Music Hall to hear Comrade Harriman on his return from a successful lecture tour through Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Riverside, and Orange counties. The event, being the opening gun of the campaign of 1900, was looked forward to with great interest by all the friends of Socialism and of the S. L. P. of which there are already so many hereabouts. Nor was anyone disappointed, for the evening brought together the largest number ever gathered at a straight Socialist meeting in this city, the careful attention and enthusiasm being most encouraging to all comrades in the Section.

Comrade George Holmes presided and opened the meeting with a brief and concise statement of the object of scientific Socialism and of the growth of the Socialist Labor Party in this country. Comrade Holmes is quite a wonder to us in California. Less than a year ago he had never even thought of speaking, while now he ranks as one of the most lucid advocates of the Socialist Cause on this coast. He is thoroughly grounded in the essential principles of scientific Socialism, and is a firm believer in the tactics of the S. L. P. These he brings out with clearness and vigor, and judging from the applause that usually falls to his lot, his speeches are fully appreciated by all hearers. His remarkable success affords fresh evidence of the necessity of all comrades testing their oratorical powers, before modestly assuming a seat among the audience. We need speakers in these days more than ever before, and comrades must remember that in a certain sense speakers must find themselves.

Comrade Harriman's efforts in building up Section Los Angeles have earned for him a very warm place in many hearts in Southern California, and he has only to show himself to be sure of an enthusiastic greeting. This was not wanting last evening, and the great and prolonged applause which welcomed him on stepping forward will, I feel sure, serve as further encouragement to him in the arduous labor of building up the party all over California. For the past three months he has been touring in his specially built van pretty well all over four counties. This van was built after his own design, the money being furnished by comrades and friends, both in San Francisco and Los Angeles, a wealthy gentleman having helped him to procure a vitascope, which has wonderfully helped him, especially in the country districts.

His mode of procedure is quite original. On arriving in a town, he drives through the streets, stopping at all school houses where he interests the children in a phonograph that he carries with him. In this way he advertises a meeting in the evening, generally bringing out from 100 to 300 persons. These he always interests and then urges them to come their friends on the following night when, as a rule, the audience is doubled. As a result it is rare for him to leave a place without having found the nucleus for a Section, and "Harriman and the S. L. P." are becoming a bugbear of no small dimensions to the friends of plutocracy in these southern regions, and more especially to the Democratic tail of their voluminous kite.

In treating his subject last evening, Harriman adopted his usual method of prefacing his stereopticon-vitascope lecture by a preliminary address of about forty-five minutes. In this he brought out the true economic conditions which exist to-day and which threaten shortly to crush the people if they do not cause a revolution. His points were illustrated by local instances in the way of trust absorption. A most striking case mentioned was that of the Puente Oil Company, which unwisely crossed the path of its great rival and met with the usual treatment accorded to its inferiors by the Standard Oil Company in Ohio and Pennsylvania. Both his arguments and his illustrations were exaggerated or interlarded by a quaint humor, of which he is master and which never fails to cause his audiences great amusement and to draw from them frequent applause.

This applause was equally noticeable during the stereopticon lecture so combined with the large audience so affected the reporter of the Democratic daily that nearly a column and a half were given in this morning's issue to a good and fair report of the whole meeting. Such fair treatment is the best evidence of the growth of the S. L. P. in Southern California that can be afforded.

JAMES T. VAN RENSSSELAER.

The English translation of Karl Marx' "Eighteenth Brumaire," that some time ago ran through THE PEOPLE, is now to be had bound in an elegant volume of 73 pages, with Marx' picture as frontispiece. No Socialist, even though he be no student, and no student, even though he be no Socialist, can afford to be without it. Apply Labor News Co., 147 E. 23d street, N. Y. City. Price, 25 cents.

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## SOCIALIST VOTE IN THE UNITED STATES.

In 1888 (Presidential) . . . 2,088  
In 1890 . . . 13,331  
In 1892 (Presidential) . . . 21,157  
In 1894 . . . 33,133  
In 1896 (Presidential) . . . 36,564  
In 1898 . . . 82,204

Taxes!—A matter, to the bourgeoisie, of deep, to the workingman, however, of very slight concern. That which the workingman pays in taxes goes, in the long run, into the cost of production of labor-power, and, accordingly, must be borne by the capitalist.

FREDERICK ENGELS.

["On the Question of Dwellings."]

## THE VOICE OF CONNECTICUT'S STATE COMMITTEE.

NEW HAVEN, Conn., May 7.—At a special meeting of the State Committee, held May 7, to consider the attitude of the "New Yorker Volkszeitung" on the tactics pursued by the National Executive Committee of the Socialist Labor Party, the following resolutions were unanimously adopted to be published in the Party organs, THE PEOPLE and the "Vorwaerts":

RESOLVED, That the Connecticut State Committee fully endorse the tactics pursued by the National Executive Committee towards the pure and simple trade unions;

RESOLVED, That the Connecticut State Committee recognize the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance as the only true upholder and defender of the rights of the wage working class in its economic struggles with the capitalist class, by combining the political with the economic struggle. Pure and simple trade unions have dwindled down to mere sick and death benefit societies, being unable to cope with concentrated capital on the economic field alone; the overwhelming majority of the working class find themselves excluded from the pure and simple trade union on account of the high dues charged by them;

RESOLVED, That we also fully endorse the fearless position taken by the Editors of THE PEOPLE and the "Vorwaerts" in showing up the false economies published by the "Volkszeitung" on the tax question, and we condemn the suppression by its Editor of valuable information in reply to the same;

RESOLVED, That we do not consider the "Socialistic Co-operative Publishing Association" a fit body to govern or publish a Socialist paper while such body tolerates within its ranks men who are hostile to the party or its tactics.

F. SERRER,

P. ZIMMERMANN,

THOMAS STEIGERWALD,

JOS. MAREK,

J. P. JOHNSON,

TIMOTHY SULLIVAN,

State Committee.

## NAME HIM NAME HIM!

The Detroit, Mich., "Motorman and Conductor" for the month of April last passed has this letter:

New York, April 7, 1899.  
Mr. W. D. Mahon, President Street Railway Men's National Association, Detroit, Mich.

Dear Sir:—As one who has had a long experience in the street railway business as a capitalist and speculator, I am thoroughly familiar with the business, and for the past several years I have watched your determined efforts to bring about a thorough organization of the street railway workers, and I assure you that when I have been in sympathy with your movement, and I know from experience that the railway workers as individuals can never hope to achieve anything like a reasonable compensation for their labor, and that their only hope lies in organization. Therefore, in order to assist and advance the movement, I donate to your association the sum of \$500, and leave it to your discretion to apply it where it will do the most good and bring the best results.

Hoping that your organization may extend until every street car man in America becomes a member of it, I remain,  
YOUR FRIEND,

The Editor of the "Motorman and Conductor" furthermore informs his readers that the money has been accepted with thanks.

We know not just how things are in Detroit; but, judging from the known to the unknown, from the simple to the complex, we seem that even a Detroit Labor Leader has ample reason to know a thing or two. A Pingree "Friend of Labor" who recommends an Embalmed Beef Alger for the United States Senate, should certainly be an eye-opener for anybody. At this end of the line, true enough,—with "Anti-Monopolists," whose pockets bulge with monopoly stocks; with Depews decrying Trusts; with Goulds pronouncing themselves for "Good Government"; with Seth Lows declaiming in favor of "Labor's Rights"; and so forth and so on,—at this end of the line, we say, the eye-openers are so numerous that none can be taken in

who does not want to, and, consequently, some charity may be exercised in behalf of distant brothers, perhaps less favorably located. This, however, should not prevent our leaving such locally unfavored brothers in the dark. On the contrary, it is a reason the more to hasten to their rescue.

A New York capitalist friend of workmen, with \$500 to give away, is a very suspicious thing. Let him be named. Nothing short of his name in full will do to allay the suspicion that he is either one of those long-headed capitalists who knows that nothing pays like a few dollars invested in "Labor," so as to disarm hostility and get a clear field for wholesale skinning; or he is a stockholder in one of those bankrupt concerns, in which the bondholders are getting all the fat, and he is in favor of "nationalization" so as to realize on his stocks.

Such a "Friend of Labor" do we take this mysterious New York capitalist to be; and feel quite sure that, his name being known, the suspicion would promptly be confirmed.

## POLITICAL and ECONOMIC.

We introduce with pleasure to the public a new Socialist local organ—"The Proletarian," issued by the Springfield, Mass., Section of the S. L. P. In its salutatory, explaining its name, the new paper says:

Without going into the etymology of the term, it has come to be recognized as standing for him who has nothing to sell but his small stock of labor-power; between whom and want stands nothing but his labor, and who is starving or depends on charity whenever he is not able to sell this commodity; for labor has in fact become a commodity, bought and sold in the open market; and as the labor market is constantly glutted, and more and more workers are being thrown out of work, supplanted by new machinery, their means of livelihood becomes more and more precarious. In the old Roman days the name slave was given to the proletarian who was just enough to increase their kind and work for the rich. It is much the same to-day with the worker. It was even a lay-word and a slogan when the proletarian was a host of other battlefields of labor, and it is little indeed that can be expected for the workers from putting more power in the hands of such Government.

In sight of the numerous "Socialisms" that are cropping up, the Chicago, Ill., "Worker's Call" says warningly:

Perhaps the most subtle form in which sham Socialism shows itself is in the cry for governmental or municipal ownership of industry which is so end to State Socialism. The defects of this scheme have been so often exposed in these columns that it is scarcely necessary to refer to it again. It is enough to point out that the Government that it is proposed shall run these industries is to-day administered wholly in the interest of the very class whose existence depends upon the continued slavery of the worker to show that labor has no interest in such movements. It was the agents of Government that shot the workers at Pann, Chicago Stock Yards. Virden, and a host of other battlefields of labor, and it is little indeed that can be expected for the workers from putting more power in the hands of such Government.

Disregarding, despite all warnings, the advice not to "advertise the fakirs," and following our own time-tried and time-approved theory that all the prestige that a fakir can get from our advertisement he is welcome to, while, on the other hand, it is absolutely necessary to post the honest public, we give below the following letter, published with praise in Kier Hardie's "Labour Leader":

20th March, 1899.  
DEAR COMRADES OF THE "LABOUR LEADER."—It may be of interest to you to know that my wife and I are seriously thinking of visiting Great Britain this summer, and remaining for six months or a year lecturing and studying social conditions. If we can recruit any aid to the I. L. P., we will gladly do so. I shall be delighted to meet again the sturdy comrades whose friendship I was fortunate enough to obtain two years ago.

We are at present aiding Mayor Jones (SOCIALIST) in his campaign for re-election in Toledo, Ohio. We have left Ruskin Colony, as its sphere of work was terminated, and I expect to resign the editorship of "The Coming Nation."

Can you arrange another lecture tour for me in case we determine to go over? What are the prospects politically in Britain? My wife and I expect to reside two years in England, and it is possible she may have her way.

My address is 223 Twelfth Street, Toledo, Ohio, U. S. A.  
Kindest regards to you all.  
Yours heartily,  
HERBERT N. CASSON.

Here we have two fakirs,—an American and an English,—exposed together.

The Boston, Mass., "Daily Globe" had better go right off back to school. This is the question it propounds:

Here is a question in political economy that almost any schoolboy ought to answer: If a country has a consuming power of only 75,000,000 and a producing power of 150,000,000, while 1,355,000,000 peonies, each worth something, are produced and consumed at home, what should be done about it?

And this is the closing answer it gives:

The situation is just that of the United States to-day. We must expand our markets abroad, and that is why we want the Philippines as a distributing center of the vast markets in the East that are developing. Of course we must have peace, order and security there.

Now, the answer that any schoolboy of average intelligence would give would be first premised with this question:

How comes it that with a producing power of 150,000,000, three-fourths of our 75,000,000 consuming power are at the ragged edge?

The hemming and hawings of the "Daily Globes" would no doubt suggest to any schoolboy of average penetration that there was "something rotten in Denmark," and the answer would promptly be:

In the first place, let us satisfy our own 75,000,000 consuming power, before we talk of "expanding."

In the second place, this "expanding" plan must be very risky; seeing the starvation it produces at home, it can only mean an "expanding" of the starvation principle.

And so it is.

## FIGURES AND FACTS.

[The below is two articles—Nos. II. and III.—of a serial that the New York "Vorwaerts," German national organ of the S. L. P., has been publishing under the title: "Demagogic Taxation Policies," and No. I. of which appeared in last week's issue of THE PEOPLE. Nos. II. and III. were published in the "Vorwaerts" on the 20th and the 27th instant respectively. The "Vorwaerts" is the weekly edition of the "New Yorker Volkszeitung," and consequently appears in this city. The two articles, the same as No. I., WERE SUPPRESSED from the daily editions of the "New Yorker Volkszeitung," whose editorial management, with the claim of "freedom of speech on their lips, are using the columns of their paper to foist upon the public their own, private, crude, false and mischievous notions of taxation, even if in order to furnish a foundation for their notions, they must first resort to gross falsifications of statistical figures and to unconscionable garblings of citations from authors; even if to satisfy their pedantry they must play directly into the hands of the "Tax-Reform" bourgeois; and finally, even if, by their conduct, they must violate the constitution of their own Party in jeopardy, hesitate not, by suppressing Party articles, to seek to throttle the Party's voice towards the German elements in this country. (The Movement in America stands sound.)

In our last week's article we adduced facts to show in a general way how little the condition of the workingmen is affected by changes in capitalist taxation policies; hence, how little justification there is for the workingmen to allow themselves to be lured by the capitalist politicians into a conflict about the distribution of taxes, about high or low taxation.

On that occasion we considered the total of taxation without regard to the several sources from which it is drawn, and which constitute the aggregate taxes levied. An analysis of the total of taxation, according to its several sources will contribute towards clarifying the question.

The analysis brings out that about four-fifths of all taxes are drawn from seven groups of merchandise. For the elucidation of the point we give the figures for the census year of 1890. In that year a grand total of 374 million dollars was raised from internal and customs revenue, divided as follows:

Beer, brandy and other liquors.	\$110,540,881
Tobacco	45,769,577
Cotton goods	11,691,590
Sugar	55,150,819
Wool and woollen goods	42,990,326
Iron and steel	15,332,172
Silk goods	18,945,751
Total	\$300,331,008

These seven groups of merchandise constitute the cornerstone of the American system of taxation. The other articles of merchandise, that, from time to time, are subjected to taxation, are of no importance to the question of the distribution of taxes, especially not to the question whether the workingmen are interested or not in the distribution of taxes. These other sources of taxes cannot, in the first place, by reason of their very nature (they are mainly raw materials and aids to production), and, in the second place, by reason of the smallness of the amount that they yield all together they would average only \$1.20 per head of population, be of any consequence. We may, therefore, limit the investigation to the above-named seven groups.

Soon as we descend from the general to the specific facts and observe these facts, we discover that we may from the start, leave out even some of these main sources of taxation, because it promptly appears that the taxing of them can not affect the purchasing power of the workingman's wages. The taxes on iron and steel and on iron and steel goods, as likewise the taxes on silk, can not be felt by the workingmen as a tax-burden.

While leaving out these two sources of taxes, we must, at the same time point out the fact that, even if these groups of merchandise did play a rôle in the consumption by Labor, the lowness or highness of the taxes laid upon them could not be of interest to the workers. These taxes were laid on by the capitalists for their own capitalist purposes, and the amounts that they are made to yield vary according to the figures that may from time to time suit the capitalists' interests. Thus the taxes collected on iron and steel rose between 1870 and 1880 from 21 to 22 million of dollars, and dropped again in 1890 to 15 million; but the value, and, along with it, the price of iron and steel goods dropped steadily; thus also did the prices for silk goods decline steadily while the taxes collected upon them from 1870 to 1890 went down, and, between 1880 and 1890 again rose slightly.

The object of these taxes was, not so much the collection of revenues for the Government, as the monopolization of the American market for the American capitalists. These taxes manufactured manufacturers; accordingly, they manufactured a sharper competition, and they also manufactured, by means of improved methods of production, the conditions that compelled the displacing of labor; along with that, they effected a lowering of values.

For the same reasons, the taxes and duties levied upon wool and woollen and cotton goods, not only could not effect a rise, but were rather bound to effect a decline of prices.

The official figures for the prices of woollen goods show that the same kind of woollen thread, that, in 1872, was quoted at \$2.12 per pound, dropped, in 1880, to \$1.65, and, in 1890, to \$1.22; that the same kind of flannel, that, in 1870, stood at 50 cents a yard, dropped in 1880 to 35 cents, and in 1890 to 30 cents. The price of ordinary cotton fell from 7.8 cents a yard in 1872 to 4.5 cents a yard in 1890, and to 3.3 cents in 1890. To present the matter in comprehensive manner we place below the price quotations and the taxes collected along side of each other:

Taxes	Woolen thread
	price per pound.
1872	\$2.12
1880	\$1.65
1890	\$1.22
Taxes on cotton	Cotton price
	per yard.
1872	\$7.8
1880	\$4.5
1890	\$3.3

These figures make it clear that the purchasing power of the workingman's wages was not affected by the duties or taxes on these textile articles. Accordingly, also these groups may be eliminated from the sources of taxes

that are of importance to the workingmen.

There remain still three leading articles of taxation to be investigated: sugar, tobacco and liquors generally.

Of these we shall consider sugar, and shall do so with a short statistical table which compares the taxes collected with the movement of wholesale prices:

Sugar duties.	Price per pound.
1872	\$30.970,028
1880	42,203,915
1890	55,150,819

Hand in hand with an increased burden of taxation, the price of sugar also declined steadily. The purchasing power of the workingman's wages was, accordingly, not in the least affected by the tax on this article either; we therefore strike out this item also, and have now only the two items—tobacco and liquors—left to consider.

The duties and taxes raised on these articles of consumption have, in the aggregate, increased as follows:

1872	\$96,373,253
1880	74,754,780
1890	113,940,581

This is, then, the item of taxation whose workings upon the condition of the workingman is still to be investigated. Distributed over the whole population, the following per capita would appear:

1872	\$1.00 per head
1880	1.49 "
1890	1.70 "

The question of taxation is one of those issues of the day that is used by demagogic hirelings of Capital to steer the workingmen away from their own class interests, from the interests, which, as wage earners, as propertyless and exploited producers, they have in common, and which drive them to the class struggle against the exploiting classes. In order to hold them fastened to the apron-strings of the exploiting classes, the demagogic politicians seek to draw the attention of the workers upon questions in which they are allegedly interested as consumers. Thus is the tax question operated with. An interest therein is talked into the workingmen on the allegation that, due to the height of taxation, they suffer an extra-exploitation, while, by an eventual reduction of the taxes, they could expect a marked improvement of their condition.

With the facts at hand we have inquired above into the extent to which the workingman is affected by a high or a low "burden of taxation"; we have proved, with regard to those articles of consumption, from which two-thirds of the taxes, collected by the American Government, are raised, that the prices of these, regardless of the varying rates of taxation, have STEADILY DECLINED. We showed that with reference to those sources of taxes, which, in 1890, yielded a total of 264 million dollars of taxes. There remained only two groups of articles of consumption to be looked into, to wit, tobacco manufactures and liquors.

These two groups of goods have borne from year to year an increasing share in the total of taxation. In 1880, they yielded one-fourth of all taxes; in the current year (1898-'99) they will have to bear more than one-third of the "burden of taxation." The taxes raised from these two sources rose, from 74 million dollars in 1880, to 110 million in 1890, and to 108 million in 1898.

Here, then, we have a striking increase in the "burden of taxation." Just think of it, since 1880, an increased taxation of 94 million dollars;—the "burden of taxation" more than doubled! Have the workmen had to let that amount be knocked out of them extra?

In the first place, be it remembered that these totals look much more dangerous than they are in fact. Even if the workingmen had to bear these increased taxes through higher prices, the amount, computed per capita of the population, would be insignificant: it would have amounted, between 1880 and 1898, to an increase of 51 cents a year per person, or of \$2.55 for every family of five members!

But, on the contrary, the facts prove that the consumers of tobacco and cigars, of beer and whiskey had by no means this increased taxation to bear.

Of the taxes gathered from tobacco and liquors, whiskey yields by far more than one-half. The tax on whiskeys yielded, in 1880, 61 million dollars; rose, in 1890, to 81 million, and in 1898 to 92 million. Did the drinkers of whiskey have to pay any more? Not at all.

The wholesale prices had dropped during that same period. Inclusive of taxes, the gallon cost, in 1880, \$1.53, and was sold, in 1890, for \$1.50, and beginning of 1898 for \$1.30. At retail, the price remained almost stationary; the average price was, during this rising taxation, \$2.50 per gallon. Finally, the drinker, who buys a drink at the bar, has all along paid the same price—10 cents.

Relatively, the tax on beer rose highest. In 1880, it amounted to 12½ million dollars; in 1890, to 26 million; and in 1898, to 39½ million. But the average wholesale price did not rise simultaneously; on the contrary, it fell. Between 1880 and 1890, the price per barrel fell from \$8 to \$7, and by 1898 it had fallen on an average to \$6. During the period when the tax rose and the wholesale prices fell simultaneously, the beer drinker paid the same price for his glass of beer.

Thus it turns out that the worker's consumption was not affected by the taxation of beers and whiskeys. We, accordingly, strike out these articles also from the list of those sources of taxation in which the workingman could have an interest.

There remains only tobacco and its manufactures to consider. On tobacco and cigars, the duties and taxes raised were, in 1880, 41½ million dollars; in 1890, 43½ million dollars. From 1880 to 1898, the internal revenue taxes raised from tobacco and cigars have risen by about 3 million dollars.

Towards the taxes from tobacco manufactures, cigars and cigarettes contributed more than one-half. In the rate of the taxation of these numerous important changes have taken place. But the prices, which the consumer has had to pay, have not been affected by these changes. In 1883, the internal revenue taxes were reduced from 16 down to 10 million dollars. This reduction of the "burden of taxation,"

did not, however, lead to lower prices for the smoking workingmen. It did not even rebound to the benefit of the small trader, who had to pay the years ago customary price—on an average \$30 per 1,000 5-cent cigars—after as well as before the reduction. Later, 1890, the duty was raised by the McKinley bill on imported wrappers, and thereby the "burden of taxation" was again increased by 3 million dollars. But the price could not be raised either to the retailer or the smoker. For the small retailer, even to-day, under the increased war tax rates, the same price of old prevails.

The only item of taxation that still remains to be considered is smoking tobacco. Until the war tax law of 1898, there has been no increased taxation of this article since 1870. The increased tax, introduced by the law, has indeed been thrown upon the price. But that could happen only because the trade in smoking tobacco had been brought fully under control of the Trust. In this, the monopoly of an industry thwarts the tendencies in the determination of prices, which, otherwise, prevent the throwing of the tax upon the consumer.

And yet, of what significance is the increase of taxation on tobacco to the consumer?

According to the reports so far in, this tax will run up for the current year to 2½ million dollars, as against 17½ million dollars the year before. According to that, the "burden of taxation" would have been increased by 5 million dollars. If this whole "burden" is distributed among the male wage earners, 40 CENTS A YEAR is the "burden" that would fall on each workingman.

THAT IS ONE OF THOSE QUANTITIES THAT MAY BE IGNORED AND CONSIDERED EQUAL TO ZERO.

That much for the facts as to the effect of the system of taxation upon the American workingmen; facts that need not to be supplemented except in a few points with regard to the war tax.

Why should we try to capture a slice of China; China has captured us. During the past year 148 persons have been supported at the Morris County Almshouse, near Boonton. The average number has been ninety-six. At the present time there are eighty-two inmates. Nineteen deaths have occurred during the year. The cost of maintaining the institution for the year amounted to \$8,094.34. The cost of keeping the inmates has been nineteen cents a day for each person. Chinese could starve no better.

Perry Belmont, the adulterer, is, together with Whitelaw Reid, the main owner of the Cœur d'Alene mines. Some seven years ago, these two—one a Democrat, the other a Republican—obtained from a Republican President Federal troops to help them down their miners. And how they did down them! Now, it seems that Mr. Belmont's adulterous escapades with his new wife, the ex-wife of Millionaire Sloan, required much money; the Cœur d'Alene miners had to be increasingly plucked; they were; they rebelled; and again Federal troops are sent down upon them; and this time the military takes full control by issuing a proclamation that contains this passage:

Certain organizations or combinations existing in Shoshone County have shown themselves to be criminal in purpose by procuring property to be destroyed and murder to be committed for the reason whereof it has been twice necessary to declare martial law in Shoshone County. You are therefore notified that men belonging to said, or other criminal organizations during the continuance of martial law must cease. In case this declaration is not obeyed, your mines will be closed.

All parties applying for underground work in any of the mines will be required to obtain from Dr. Hugh France a permit authorizing said person so applying to seek for and obtain employment.

Thus brazen crime dares insult the wronged.  
But the dawn of freedom is in sight.

## LECTURES.

HUGO VOGT, "The S. T. & L. A. and Its Mission," Sunday, May 14, 118 East 110th Street, New York.

ARTHUR KEEP, "Socialism vs. Reform," Thursday, May 18, Caledonia Hall, 101st Street and Columbus Avenue (21st A. D.), N. Y.

MASS MEETING, Wednesday, May 17, at 414 East 8th St. (N. Y.) for the purpose of organizing Branch 2 of 29th A. D. Arthur Keep, speaker. Readers of THE PEOPLE, especially those residing in the District, please attend.

## The Noble's Revenge.

A Ballad of Modern Love, of Modern Men and Modern Maids.

[Written for THE PEOPLE by V. S., Boston, Mass.]

"The colonial office furnishes many berths to our nobility, and were it not for them, suffering would be more acute than it now is. Our merchants and our tradesmen have served to prop up many a noble house, which otherwise would now be but history. The merchant makes the money, and the money makes the lords."  
—Peter Arber, China, 1819.

The grass grew green on the hillside top,  
And it grew green at the base.  
And Lord Ronald he entered a baker's shop,  
And there was was in his face:  
"No credit, no credit," the baker cried,  
"Will I give you or your bonny bride,  
And whether good or ill betide?"  
"But the world is large," Lord Ronald sighed.

So all forelorn he took him back—  
"What luck!" his lady said.  
Then her good liege lord but moaned,  
"Alack!"  
"We'll have to bake our bread,  
No more the taxes and the galling ples  
I'll set before your meek brown eyes,  
No more the buns with current ales."  
"Will still Lord Smallfret's infant cries."

Then they sold their shares in a Yankee maid.  
Whom they hoped to own outright:  
But their woe and sorrow did not fade  
When the shadows of the night  
The maid was quoted high next day,  
And Ronald in his blank dismay,  
Would buy again—but, well away,  
A fractured duke had bought the fay.

Out of one grave there grew a vine,  
And out of one a thorn:  
And the baker he rued his dastard deed,  
And on himself came woe and need.  
When young Lord Smallfret came to feed,  
And pointed out in scorn,  
That he the baker's child did drive  
Would wed the mother's more  
Mark Hanna in Exile.



Uncle Sam & Brother Jonathan

Brother Jonathan (looking very wise)—I have a nut for the first Socialist whom I meet to crack.

Uncle Sam—Suppose you try it on me.

B. J.—Good. Here it is: Is it not Socialist principle that bigger capital makes competition harder for smaller capital?

U. S.—Tis.

B. J.—And if two big concerns pull together they will be able to pull down any one concern which neither could have coped with single handed?

U. S.—Just so.

B. J.—And that the upshot of it all is gigantic monopoly that, on the one hand, defies competition, and, on the other, deprives the workingman of his just share of production?

U. S.—Correct, again.

B. J.—Now this is my nut for you: Would not there remain, under any form of Government, a tendency towards just such tyrannical coalitions?

U. S.—Did you ever see one of Barnum's clowns turn a somersault backwards?

B. J.—Lots of times.

U. S.—Well, that's just what you have done now.



THE PEOPLE is for sale at N. A. Perry's stationery store, 287 William street, between Madison and Jefferson streets.



## MAY DAY OVERFLOW.

Under the above head, and beginning with the issue of the 7th instant, we shall successively publish, until exhausted, the several contributions, that, intended for the May Day issue, were crowded out mainly for want of space, and most of them on account of arriving too late. As with only two exceptions, all the contributors to the May Day issue, it was with regret that the May Day issue could not be enlarged so as to take them all in. As these are all of value, the next best thing will now be done by publishing them successively. The whole set—those that appeared in the May Day issue, together with the "overflow"—will constitute a valuable historic document upon the "day of the land" and the spirit of the Movement in America at the time of last May Day of the 19th Century.

## IDAHO.

## LABOR'S BATTLE IN IDAHO—PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE.

By Member West. Federation of Miners, Burke.

In 1880, the mine owners of the Northwest met in Helena, Montana, and organized what was known as the "Mine Owners' Industrial Protective Association." Every member of the Association paid one cent per ton royalty on each ton of ore shipped from his mine, which went into a sinking fund for the purpose of defraying expenses in an attempt to reduce wages to \$3 and \$2.50 per day. This reduction of the miners' wages from \$3.50 per day was intended to be general throughout the West.

The Cour d'Alene District of Idaho was decided upon as the point where the attack should be made. Accordingly, on the 17th of January, 1892, every mine in the Cour d'Alene was shut down. The mine owners alleged that this suspension of operations would be indefinite unless the R. R. Co.'s reduced their charges. This, however, was only a blind, as many of them had a contract with the railroad for a period of two years and would not have been entered into by them unless their business would warrant the rate.

The mine owners' object became apparent when they announced in April, 1892, that they were ready to resume operations with day's wages at \$3.00 and \$2.50, and if the miners did not accept these wages they would never again be re-employed. In the meantime the mine owners had their agents in the mining centers of the East hiring men at their reduced scale to take the place of the Cour d'Alene miners.

The unions refused to accept this scale or any scale which would be a reduction of underground wages.

Thus was forced upon the miners of the West their great battle with capitalism which resulted in flooding the Cour d'Alene with Pinkerton thugs and scabs at the beck and call of the capitalist class, and ultimately intended to force wages down in all mining districts west of the Mississippi.

This was desperately and heroically resisted by the miners and forced them nearer than hitherto to the necessity of class-conscious solidarity.

For, be it remembered, that to carry their nefarious schemes to victory it became necessary for the mine owners to have martial law declared here, and have 1,200 U. S. Regulars, supplemented by the State militia, to cower into submission the dauntless spirit of the West. Twenty-five union men were imprisoned and twelve were convicted for contempt of court.

Judge Beattie issued his injunction in the beginning of May, 1892, prohibiting union men from ever counseling with others not to take their places. This, I believe, is the first case on record where a Federal Judge issued an injunction against organized labor and imprisoned its members for contempt.

In September, 1892, four members of the miners' union were sent to the Detroit Reformatory by Judge Beattie for terms ranging from 18 months to 2 1/2 years. The miners appealed to the U. S. Supreme Court, and in the month of February, 1893, that Court reversed the decision of Judge Beattie and ordered the imprisoned men discharged. While martial law was in force here, scabs and non-union men destroyed miners' halls, insulted women and assaulted men!

General Carlin confiscated two cars of provisions consigned to miners who were in enforced idleness by the conspiracy of capitalist brigands. The U. S. Army, Federal Court, and police powers co-operated with the mine owners to destroy trade unions. As a result, political action for self-protection was resorted to by the wage workers. They flocked to the Populists. They found that the interior councils of the People's party of the West were controlled by the men who met in Helena to perfect a conspiracy for their degradation. They, therefore, are now rallying to support their class interests which are enunciated and upheld by the Socialist Labor Party.

Two strong Sections are now in existence and others ready to become dominant in the politics of Idaho and of the world.

In this way we prepare to meet at the hustings in 1900 the silver bug, gold bug populist-capitalists—the three chief political representatives of capitalism.

The Socialist Labor Party of Idaho, whose members are leading spirits in the Western Federation of Miners, the Western Labor Union (the K. of L. now defunct here) march to the conquest of the public powers the only working class political organization of Idaho.

## ILLINOIS.

## A PROPHECY COME TRUE.

By William E. McClure, Chicago.

It is not often the writer hazards a prophecy; but during the excitement of the last Presidential campaign, while combating the idea that a vote for a minority party was thrown away, I ventured to affirm that but one hundred thousand resolute Socialist votes

would be a powerful check to the rapacity of our masters, and, given a million votes, the politicians would be stealing from our platform at the next election. It is becoming evident that I vastly under-estimated the power of a Socialist vote. For, though we have not yet reached even the hundred thousand mark, Socialism is today a word to conjure with, and already the stealing from our platform has begun. Advocacy of the municipalization of various public utilities is now one of the indispensable weapons of the shrewdest political trimmers, and bobs up irrespective of party. One day it is in the hands of a Pingree or a Jones, the next it is wielded by a Croker or an Altgeld. These are men who keep in touch with the public pulse, and through their astuteness seem to lead, whereas they but follow.

Here in Chicago, in the recent campaign, we had the edifying spectacle of three capitalist candidates for Mayor vying with each other in their declarations in favor of ownership of the street railways by the city. That it was not practicable of accomplishment during the next two years, the period of incumbency, was carefully kept in the background; and very likely the sense of security which this gave added to the extravagance of their professions. They knew they could not make them good.

So far as the talk of men who are shaping the policy of the Democratic party in the West may be taken as an indication, there is a strong probability that a similar phenomenon will soon appear in national politics. A declaration in favor of nationalization of the telegraph and the railways may be looked for in the next Democratic platform. Should this prove to be the case, and sooner or later it is almost sure to be so, we may have to face in the national arena what we have just experienced locally—the appearance of a temporary check to our growth as expressed at the polls through the dropping off of weak-kneed brethren to whom the vision of one thing at a time, (any old thing labeled Socialistic), is as the candle to the moth.

This need be no cause for discouragement. On the contrary, to the well grounded Socialist this blowing off of a few loose bricks from the top of the wall is but the spur to renewed effort, the incentive to a firmer upbuilding.

The emergency is upon us, and it behooves us to meet it promptly and vigorously. Fabianism at such a time is a source of weakness, its day is past and all taint of it must be thrown off. The worthlessness to the workers of middle class municipalization or nationalization must be thoroughly exposed. It is the significance of the class struggle we must preach in season and out of season. Once grounded in that the comrades will never waver before the onslaught of capitalistic schemes of governmental monopoly with which we are threatened. In the class struggle we have a weapon the capitalist will not dare to fool with. That plank of our platform will never be stolen!

I see that I have used up my space limit, and can give but a word to the movement in this State. Our progress is steady and encouraging, though we have had much to contend with. There have been times in the fight when it has seemed difficult to tell between friend and foe. We have been forced to hit hard, but we have always tried to strike true. We feel that the foundations are being firmly laid, and that through and perhaps because of our present struggles the movement will grow daily clearer in purpose and more vigorous in endeavor. New centers of agitation are being established and the State will soon be well covered. The spirit of the comrades is shown in the sacrifices that are being made to establish the "Worker's Call." It justified its existence from the first clear note of its Salutory, and it is needless to say we are proud of it, and of its achievement in the fine rendering of Liebknecht's powerful exposition of Socialism.

## WISCONSIN.

## WITHIN SIXTY YEARS, FROM A WILDERNESS TO A CAPITALIST STATE.

By Richard Koppel, Milwaukee.

Not sixty years ago, and only a few block-houses marked the place on the beautiful Lake of Michigan where today the miniature metropolis of Milwaukee, with her 250,000 inhabitants is located. There are still old residents to be found who carried on barter with the Red Skins. The stories told by these old settlers sound like mythic legends of a grey antiquity; and yet a generation has not yet passed since the days when they were the heroes of their own tales.

And to-day? To-day Milwaukee may proudly compete for the championship of the world with any other large industrial center if the achievement is to be on the field of capitalist exploitation, brutal class struggle, and the extreme plutocracy.

As with Milwaukee, so with the rest of the State. Everything, the air excepted, the Dragon Capital has swallowed up in fifty years. Everything! There still are in the State thousands of acres of untouched, virgin forests; but on every trunk and every twig there is the brand of some private owner—a Lumber King. Our farmers, mostly deep in debt, are only nominal proprietors of their land; they are actually the employees of their mortgagees. The number of independent holders melts away more and more every year with the development of capitalism. We too already have our bonanza farmer.

Wisconsin's industries "bloom." Pity only that, here, as elsewhere, the fruits are not plucked by the producing masses; the blessed harvest is pocketed by a few. Hence here also we have strikes. Hence, also, ours also is a soil drenched with the blood of the workman. Finally, hence also, Wisconsin has her trade unions.

And what do these do in order to improve the condition of the workers? Do they seek to free him from wage slavery? No! Of independent Labor politics, in the sense of the Socialist Labor Party, they, that is to say, their leaders, do not want to know anything. There is no room for the Fakir in our

Movement, and these gentlemen want to live, and live well. While the masses are ignorant and naive the Fakirs have their way. Yes, the ignorance of the masses in Wisconsin is due to the Fakirs; it is a standing proof of the crime of these and fit companions of the Labor Fakirs are the political fakirs of the "Social Democratic" party. "No independent politics," and yet we find the Debs "party" endorsed by such elements, while the Socialist Labor Party, having seen through them, is hated and recognized as their enemy.

And yet the fakirs are said to do some good. Regularly every year they go about with a bunch of proposed Labor Bills begging the capitalists in the Legislature to support them. How much longer will the trade unions of Wisconsin tolerate this disgraceful spectacle! And similarly, with uncanny regularity does Victor L. Berger, the "intellectual" leader of the Milwaukee Debsists prostitute himself in this snooking comedy.

The general Labor Movement of Milwaukee is so broke up, degraded and confused that one would almost be inclined to consider it a wonder if our Party gains a firm footing and recovers ground from which it may not be driven back again. Under the most difficult circumstances, we set up in 1896 the banner for the first time. Since then we have moved slowly, but quite surely. It is a source of gratification to be able to record the fact that in recent years the labor organizations have begun to interest themselves more and more in the principles of our Party. It is to be hoped that the day is no longer far when the Socialist Trade & Labor Alliance may strike root in Wisconsin also.

## OFFICIAL.

## NATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE—

Henry Kuhn, 184 William street, N. Y.

## NATIONAL BOARD OF APPEALS—Secretary

Robert Bandlow, 103 Champlain street, Cleveland, O.

## SOCIALIST LABOR PARTY OF CANADA—National Executive Committee—Secretary

George Moore, 61 Ryde street, Montreal.

## NEW YORK LABOR NEWS COMPANY—147 East 23rd street, New York City.

(The party's literary agency.)

NOTICE.—For technical reasons, no party announcements can go in that are not in this office by Tuesdays, 10 p. m.

## National Executive Committee.

Session of May 9, with A. S. Brown in the chair. Absent, Murphy. The financial report for the ending May 6 showed: receipts, \$83.63; expenditures, \$28.40.

Section Waterbury reported that Chas. Kilnmann and John Neubert presented their cards for admission, but were rejected by a majority vote of the Section. John Neubert also sent a communication, reporting the same fact and enclosing his card paid up to April, 1899, inclusive. Resolved, to instruct the Section that they have no option in the matter, but must accept on transfer the cards of members in good standing residing within the jurisdiction of the Section. Section Chicago, Ill., reported the expulsion of E. Wambold and P. P. Ayers for abetting with another political party. Conrad Seidel is to go to New Britain, Conn., for four days to assist the comrades recently elected to office, beginning with Tuesday, May 16, and the next meeting of the N. E. C. is to be held on Monday, May 15.

A number of complaints were received from subscribers of THE PEOPLE who had received the pro-taxation pronouncement of the "New York Volkszeitung" in a manner plainly indicating that the mailing list of the Party organ had been used to insert, in a surreptitious manner, peculiarly discreditable notices, general which the Party has taken a stand. Resolved, to instruct the Secretary to communicate with the Board of Directors of the Publishing Association and demand an explanation as to how this has come about.

A communication from the "Abendblatt" Publishing Association was read, inquiring whether the refusal of the N. E. C. to publish the statement of the Board of Directors applied to THE PEOPLE only, or to every Party organ. The Secretary was instructed to inform them that it does apply to all organs of the Party.

Charters were granted as follows: Santa Clara County, Cal.; Sussex County, N. J.; Williamsburg, Colo.; Fort Scott, Kans. JOHN J. KINCAID, Recording Secretary.

## Illinois.

FREEDBURG.—It is with pleasure I communicate the result of our village election. We elected two of our comrades as Village Trustees by a vote of 116. So much for the numbers of this place. They are beginning to get class-conscious now, and I hope that we will elect two more of our men next year and have the majority in the Council.

## Massachusetts.

THE BOSTON KARL MARX CLUB offers opportunities for developing the speaker, the debater, and the writer. A review follows each evening. The club consists of an oral statement of what we are studying. Debates take place on mooted questions which arise; for instance, for several weeks past interesting discussion has taken place on this question: "In the development of value to its dazzling money form, does value take a visible form, has it physical objectivity?" The club meets at 100 Washington street, Boston. All comrades and friends are cordially welcome.

## New York.

COLLEGE POINT.—At its regular meeting, May 2, Section College Point resolved to endorse the strike of the Karach Brewery Workers of College Point, and to give them all the aid in our power.

SOUTH BROOKLYN.—A new Branch of the S. L. P. to be known as the 7th Assembly District Branch 2, has been organized with 13 members. It meets every 1st and 3rd Tuesday, at 4th avenue and 53d street. PEOPLE readers above 40th street not yet members are requested to attend the next meeting, on Tuesday, May 16.

## Ohio.

COLEMBUS.—By advice of the State Committee, S. L. P., I wish to give notice that Section Columbus has arranged as follows for the State Convention to be held in this city, May 28. Delegates: Israel Hauser, Oscar Freer, and Otto C. Stinekopf; Committee of Arrangements: A. J. Green, C. P. Jones, and Oscar Freer. Convention at the City Hall. Headquarters at Emerson Hotel, West State street.

## General Executive Board, S. T. &amp; L. A.

The regular meeting of the G. E. B. was held on Tuesday evening, May 4, at the headquarters, 23 Duane street. Members present: Luck, De Leon, Murphy, Vogt, Wilson, Boudin, and Brower; Murphy, chairman.

Mine Workers' Union and keep away from the d-d Socialists. In fact, wherever our Organizers go, the employers advise their employees to join any organization except the S. T. & L. A. The effect of this had been just the reverse. Filled.

Communications were also received from R. A. 15, of Pittsburgh, Pa.; Jennette, Pa.; Delkosh, Wis.; Anthony, R. I.; Slaterville, R. I.; Burlington, Vt.; Toronto, Can.; Worcester, Mass.; Lima, O.; Riverport, R. I.; London, Ont.; Onychville, R. I.; Providence, R. I.; Vancouver, B. C.; Boston, Mass.; Burke City, Idaho; Scranton, Pa.; Paterson, N. J.; Detroit, Mich., asking general information, forwarding dues, etc.

Notice was also received of the death of Comrade Fred Bertram, Financial Secretary of D. A. 12, Philadelphia, Pa., who was one of the charter members of that District. Charters were granted to the following organizations:

Machinist Pioneers, of London, Ont. Mine Workers, of Houtzdale, Pa. Woven Weavers, of Greenville, R. I. Mine Workers, of Morristown, Pa. Expressmen and Draymen, of Lima, O. Mine Workers, of Hawk Run, Pa. Store Workers, of Detroit, Mich. Mine Workers, of Haverhill, Mass. Boston Machinists, of Boston, Mass. Ellis Bartholomew, of Lima, O., was appointed Organizer for the State of Ohio.

W. L. BROWER, Gen. Secretary.

## The Strike of R. &amp; H. Simon's Silk

Factory in Union Hill, N. J.

About 400 men, women and children left the above factory on Friday, April 28, in a body on account of a threatened reduction of wages. Simon had already some weeks ago hired children and intended to lower wages on piece-work from 7 to 5 cents.

Tuesday afternoon, the strikers marched in a body to the mills and demanded their pay. Thursday, May 4, the committee of the strikers, which held several meetings with the representatives of Simon, returned from the last with the news, that, with the exception of three minor articles, all others were accepted by the boss, which means, instead of a reduction, an increase of 10 to 12 per cent. on the wages in all branches. He further recognized the organization and promised that one of the strikers would be discharged for being active in this strike.

Simon had not been able to get any scabs, some four or five young girls or boys, relatives of the foremen did some little work, all the rest of the hands remained solidly outside and joined the union.

The organization held meetings every day at 9 a. m. and 3 p. m. Pickets had been placed around the factory, Simon and provided the customary policemen at the same corners. These guardians of the law and capital arrested a young striker on last Tuesday without any cause whatever. The meeting which had assembled the same afternoon, drew up a strong resolution to the Town Council, reminding Simon of his duty, and that he had no right whatever to molest the strikers and their police force to his own private interest.

Friday morning, at 7 a. m., Simon's hands assembled at the Labor Lyceum and marched in a body to the factory and took up the work.

So far no more trouble has been heard from there. The Strike Committee will remain in force under the name Shop Committee.

Next meeting will be held on Saturday, May 13, in the Union Hill Labor Lyceum.

Keep an eye on your wrapper. See when your subscription expires. Renew in time, it will prevent interruption in the mailing of the paper and facilitate work at the office.

## DAILY PEOPLE Minor Fund.

Previously acknowledged \$2,350.00 Penny collection by Leftkowitz in Hartman & Co's cigar factory. 1.00

Total \$2,351.00 N. B.—By a typographical error the total given as "Previously acknowledged" in THE PEOPLE of May 7, was made one dollar more than it should have been (\$2,342.57 instead of \$2,341.57, as per acknowledgment in THE PEOPLE of April 23, and the total given in last issue is therefore correct.

## General Agitation Fund.

Previously acknowledged \$73.84 Paul Walker, Hornellsville, N. Y. 1.00 E. Weidner, Brooklyn, N. Y. .75 C. E. Thompson, New York City. 1.00

Total \$75.59 Press Fund for the Workers' Republic, Dublin, Ireland.

Previously acknowledged \$67.25 Section Milwaukee, Wis., on lists 80 and 90 1.00 Section Pittsburgh, Pa., on list 74. 4.05

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## DISCUSSION MEETING

under the auspices of the

## Yorkville Agitation Committee,

SATURDAY, MAY 20, 1899,

(8 p. m.)

No. 206 EAST 86th Street.

Order of business is as follows:

1. Controversy between the "Volkszeitung" and THE PEOPLE.

2. General action of General Committee of Section Greater New York.

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## IMPORTANT MEETING

— of the —

## Section Philadelphia

at the

LABOR LYCEUM, 6th &amp; Brown St.,

Sunday, May 14, 8 P. M.

Election of Delegates to State Convention, which will be held at Altoona. Other important business. Members should not fail to be present. 417

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